

Message Text

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43

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 INR-07 CIAE-00 /022 W

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R 301126Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 61

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 79

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : SCUL XF

SUBJECT : AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT DIALOGUE WITH
MIDDLE EAST PERSONALITIES

REF : DOHA 65

1. GOQ MINISTER OF INFORMATION ISSA KUWARI TOLD ME
DEC 30 THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD HOPED TO ATTEND AUB CONCLAVE,
PRESS OF BUSINESS HERE PRECLUDED HIS ATTENDANCE AND THEREFOR
IT APPEARED GOQ WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE DIRECTLY REPRESENTED.
2. ON PERSONAL BASIS, I URGED KUWARI TO SEND AN ALTERNATE AND
MENTIONED HISHAM QADDUMI AS POSSIBILITY. I ALSO SUGGESTED THAT
RANKING OFFICIAL FROM MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ALSO EJ SENT.
3. KUWARI AGREED THAT QADDUMI WOULD BE EXCELLENT REP AND SAID
HE WOULD SEE WHAT HE COULD DO ABOUT SENDING HIM TO AUB MEETING.
FROM MINED HE THOUGHT DIRECTOR KAMAL NAJI SHOULD GO. (COMMENT
NAGI, AN EGYPTIAN, IS LONG TIME GOQ OFFICIAL AND RUNS MINISTRY
OF EDUCATION WITH PASHA-LIKE HAND. HE IS VERY CONSERVATIVE, BUT
WELL DISPOSED TOWARD US EDUCATIONAL METHODS AND VERY PROUD OF HIS
RECENTLY EARNED PHD--74-- FROM NORTHERN INDIANA UNIVERSITY.)
4. KUWARI SEEMED TO HAVE IMPRESSION THAT JAN 5 MEETING WAS PRI-
MARILY A FUND RAISING EFFORT. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD UNIVERSITY WAS
CONSIDERING SELLING OFF SOME OF ITS LAND AND HE DEPLORED THIS.
HE SAID AMIR WAS AWARE OF AUB'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, HAD ALREADY
MADE A CONFIDENTIAL CONTRIBUTION, AND MIGHT BE DISPOSED TO PROVIDE
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FURTHER ASSISTANCE. I REPLIED THAT PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF MEETING

WAS TO ASCERTAIN HOW AUB COULD USE ITS FACILITIES TO ASSIST EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN AREA. RE AUB'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, I REMARKED THAT I AM SURE UNIVERSITY WOULD WELCOME FURTHER ASSISTANCE FROM GOQ. AT SAME TIME, AUB'S SERVICE TO AREA WOULD BE PAID FOR AND THEREFORE WOULD ALSO HELP FINANCIAL PICTURE.

5. COMMENT: SUGGEST EMBASSY BEIRUT DISCREETLY PASS ALONG TO APPROPRIATE AUB OFFICIALS APPARENT DISPOSITION OF AMIR TO BE OF FURTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO AUB. AM SURE AUB KNOWS THAT KUWARI IS KEY MAN IN THIS REGARD AND CAN TAKE IT FROM THERE.
PAGANELLI

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